GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:574
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
DAMAGE TO RAILWAY PROPERTIES
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents reported causing damage to railway lines/railway stations and Railway properties by the terrorists/naxalites during the last three years . till date;

(b) the loss of lives and property in such incidents, incident-wise ;

(c) the details of inquiries ordered into such incidents and the outcome thereof;

(d) the action initiated by the Government on the basis of inquiry reports ; and

(e) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Railways to curb such incidents and also for the protection of the railway properties?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b) : A statement showing the details of incidents causing damage to Railway lines/Railway stations and Railway properties due to the terrorists/naxalites attacks along with loss of lives, reported during the last three years, i.e. 2003, 2004 and 2005 is enclosed as Appendix.

(c) & (d) : The cases of such crimes on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police of the Concerned States. All these cases have been registered by the Government Railway Police.

(e) Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law and order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, thus, the State Police have a separate wing called the Government Railway Police (GRP) for dealing with all matters relating to Law and Order on the Railway, and as such. Ministry of Railways has to depend on them for controlling the crime over Indian Railways. However, to provide better Security to the traveling passengers, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) Act, 1957 and the Railways Act, 1989 (except sabotage related offences under Sections-150 to 152) have been amended to enable the Railways, through RPF. to effectively supplement the efforts of the State Governments in controlling crime on the Railways. The objective was to ensure that the Government Railway Police could utilize available manpower for handling heinous offences including sabotage. At the same time. Railways have taken the following measures through RPF for protection of Railway Properties, particularly in vulnerable sections prone to terrorist/naxalite attacks;

i) During Bandh/Agitation/Rail Roko events. Railway Protection Force personnel are being deployed in vulnerable sections for protection of Railway Properties, as a precautionary measure.

ii) Joint patrolling by Tower Wagon has been introduced in various vulnerable sections prone to terrorist/naxalite attacks.

iii) The Security of affected Railway Stations, trains and other vital installations has been enhanced by deploying additional Railway Protection Special Force (RPSF) personnel for protecting the Railway property and Railway Passengers against terrorist and naxalite attacks,

iv) Apart from maintaining close liaison with Civil Police and Intelligence Authorities, surveillance at various Railway Stations is being monitored through Close Circuit Televisions (CCTVs).